



May 2016

# Myles Standish State Forest

Park Phone Number: (508) 866-2526

Park Website: <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-south/myles-standish-state-forest.html>

All programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Reasonable accommodations are available upon request. Rain Cancels

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 <b>Animal Detective</b> 10:00am to 11:30am	7
8 <b>Spring Forward!</b> 10:00am-11:30am  <b>Turtle Tromp</b> 1:00pm – 2:30pm	9	10	11	12	13 <b>Cutter Field Bird Watch</b> 9:00am – 10:30am	14 <b>Buzzards Bay Coalition Trail Run</b> 8:00am-9:00am  <b>Intro to Nature Photography</b> 1:00pm to 2:00pm
15 <b>Jeepers Creepers, Spring Peepers!</b> 10:00am – 11:00am  <b>Cannonballs and Cranberries</b> 1:00pm – 2:30pm	16	17	18	19	20 <b>Native American Life before Myles Standish</b> 1:00pm – 2:30pm	21 <b>Pine Fest 2016</b> 10:00am-4:00pm
22 <b>Murder Most Fowl: American Crow</b> 10:00am – 11:30am  <b>A Stroll Of Ice and Fire</b> 1:00pm – 2:30pm	23	24	25 <b>Poetry in Motion</b> 6:00pm – 7:15pm	26	27 <b>Here Comes Eastern Cottontail!</b> 10:00am – 11:00am	28 <b>Turtle Tromp</b> 1:00pm – 2:30pm  <b>Night Hike</b> 7:30pm -9:00pm
29 <b>Animal Detectives</b> 10:00am to 11:30am  <b>A Tale of Two Roosevelts</b> 1:00pm to 2:30pm	30	31				

## Program Descriptions

<p>All programs are free and open to the public. An adult must accompany children. Bring water, wear sunscreen/bug spray, dress in layers, and wear good footwear. Reasonable accommodations available under advance request. Rain cancels. Call ahead to confirm. For more information call (508) 866-2526. For a trail map, including parking lots, visit <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/mssf3.pdf">http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/mssf3.pdf</a>.</p>	
<p><b>Intro to Nature Photography</b></p>	<p>Have you ever tried to take a picture of something beautiful you saw when you are out in nature but it just didn't come out quite "right"? We can show you how you can take great pictures of nature with everything from long lens semi-professional cameras to disposable cameras and smart phones. We will show some simple tips and tricks that will improve your photos as well as take you to a few lovely spots nearby where you can practice. For adults. This program meets at the Interpretive Center in headquarters parking lot.</p>
<p><b>Cutter Field Bird Watch</b></p>	<p>An informal bird watching program in one of MSSF premier bird watching locations. Meets at Fearing Pond Day Use Area with a short walk over to Cutter Field Road to explore the birds that are migrating North for the summer. One hour and a half of bird watching and call identifying. This is for beginner birders; please bring binoculars if you have them – or borrow a pair of ours. For adults and children 12+. Note: the Day Use Area parking lot will be open for this program only, all cars must leave the lot by end the of the program so we can lock the gates.</p>
<p><b>A Stroll of Fire &amp; Ice</b></p>	<p>This is a forest born of ice and fire, shaped by the human hands and by changing climates. Myles Standish State Forest is home to one of North America's largest remaining pine barrens. The "pine barrens," is uniquely adapted to the sandy conditions first formed by glaciers and then changed by regular wildfires. This program covers the geological and natural history of the park as well the way people have changed the land, from Native American hunters to visitors of the forest today. Bring water, weather appropriate cloths and wear good hiking shoes on this moderately challenging 3.5 mile hike. Visitors Meet at Parking Lot 2 on Upper College Pond Road.</p>
<p><b>Turtle Tromp</b></p>	<p>Turtles are wonderful, amazing creatures! Many species that make their home throughout MSSF, including ones you likely to only see here in this forest. By learning more about them we can understand and appreciate their vital place in our world, past present and future. We will learn about the general physical make-up and behavior of the turtles as well as how they breed, eat and protect themselves. They will also learn how to identify different species of turtles and hopefully see some ourselves! This all-ages program meets at the Interpretive Center in headquarters parking lot.</p>
<p><b>Poetry in Motion</b></p>	<p>Come join us for an lyrical evening stroll through this beautiful forest with other nature and poetry lovers. Our guest speaker will be ready select passages of Robert Frost as we walk through the woods and contemplate the majesty of nature. For adults, easy walk around Fearing Pond. Meet at Parking Lot in Fearing Pond Camping Area I. Note that this parking lot will be available to park in for this program only.</p>

<b>A Murder Most Fowl: The American Crow</b>	Crows are some of the smartest and most social birds in the world. Did you know they use tools to find food and can live in colonies of over a million crows?! Come explore the amazing behavior of these fascinating creatures as we will learn how crows thrive in a variety of environments. Also come learn how different cultures have viewed crows throughout history and how these beliefs are indicative to the behavior of crows. This all-ages program meets at the Interpretive Center in headquarters parking lot.
<b>Animal Detectives</b>	Animal tracks tell the story of wildlife in the forest. Where they go, what they eat, and what's trying to eat them. Come enjoy the story of the animals of Myles Standish by learning how to identify different species in the forest like deer, fox, coyote, rabbit, and turkey. Learn to identify some of the most common types of tracks in the forest with a complimentary animal track guild. For all ages. Visitors meet at the Interpretive Center in Parking Lot One.
<b>Cannonballs and Cranberries</b>	Join us for a hike around the Rocky Pond Cranberry Bog for the special Memorial Day program. The bogs of south eastern Massachusetts have always been vital to our communities but for different reasons over the centuries. Join us for this short hike around a working cranberry bog and explore the history of the bog, from iron production to cranberry agriculture. These bogs helped America achieve its independence by producing cannonballs that was used on the USS constitutions! For adults and children 12+. Meet at the Rocky Pond Cranberry Bog Parking Lot on Bare Hill Road near Rocky Pond.
<b>Spring Forward!!</b>	It's spring time and time to get moving again! The East Head Reservoir is the largest pond in Myles Standish State Forest, all of which are fed by an enormous underground aquifer and has some of the most beautiful and bio-diverse areas in the park. On this lovely and relatively flat 2.75 mile hike around the pond we will explore the flora and fauna that live on, in and around this essential water source, and how the pond "wakes up" in the spring. For all ages who can hike about 3 miles of easy trail. The program follows the path of the Heart Healthy Trail and meets at the Interpretive Center in the headquarters parking lot.
<b>Native American Life before Myles Standish</b>	What was life like here in Massachusetts before 1620 and the arrival of the Pilgrims to Plymouth? How did Native Americans in this region live? These are important but unfortunately too often unasked questions. This program will explore the lives, culture and practices of local Wampanoag people and other local Algonquin tribes. We will discuss what was life like here prior to the arrival of Europeans and how things dramatically changed after their arrival. Suitable for guests 12 and up, this program seeks to fairly and respectfully examine this complex history from as many sides as possible. Meet at Interpretive Center in the headquarters parking lot.
<b>Jeepers Creepers, Spring Peepers!</b>	What's that sound?! Every spring, early in the morning or before you go to bed you may hear a loud high pitched sound coming from a hundred voices. What is that? It's the spring peepers! These adorable amphibians are the herald of spring, coming out of hibernation before almost every other frog. Come learn how these remarkable animals develop from tadpoles to tree frogs, how they hunt for insects day and night, and just why they are singing so much. This all-ages program meets at the Interpretive Center in the headquarters parking lot.
<b>A Tale of Two</b>	Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt were cousins and presidents who directly and indirectly contributed to the

<b>Roosevelts</b>	preservation and improvement of this unique and beautiful forest. The properties association with Theodore Roosevelt's American Game Protective and Propagation Associations in the years before the forest was purchased by the state (one hundred years ago this year!) There was massive and vital work done to the forest by Franklin Roosevelts Civilian Conservation Corp in the 1930s. Both Roosevelts have been instrumental in making this forest what it is today. For adults and children 12+. Visitors meet at the Interpretive Center in the headquarters parking lot.
<b>Here Comes Eastern Cotton Tail!</b>	The rabbits are returning! Eastern Cotton-tail rabbits, once very common had become rare do to human development but are now making a big come back, thanks to conservation efforts made by the state. We will explore the behavior, life cycle and habitat of these adorable and amazing creatures. About 2 miles long, flat and easy trail. For all ages who can walk about 2 miles of easy trail. Visitors meet at the Interpretive Center in the headquarters parking lot.
<b>Buzzards Bay Coalition Trail Run</b>	A 3.8 miles trail run on the Bentley Loop with the Buzzards Bay Coalition and the DCR. This fun relaxed run through the woods will take you to some of the most scenic and best loved parts of the forest. For adults. Meets at Parking Lot 2 on Upper College Pond Road at 8:00am.
<b>Pine Fest 2016</b>	Looking for adventure, right where you live? Looking for an outdoor activity that family and friends can do together, practically in your own back yard! Come to Pine Fest in the beautiful Myles Standish State Forest. A day of fun and playful learning that will open your mind and heart to the Greater Pine Barrens of Southeastern Massachusetts. For all ages. Meets At Charge Pond Pavilion from 10:00am to 4:00pm. For more information please visit <a href="http://pinebarrensalliance.org">pinebarrensalliance.org</a> .